

FISCAL NOTE

SB 39 - HB 511

February 14, 2003

SUMMARY OF BILL: Transfers the regulation of facsimiles (Faxes) from the Department of Commerce and Insurance to the Tennessee Regulatory Authority.

Authorizes the Tennessee Regulatory Authority to impose a civil penalty of up to a maximum of \$2,000 for each violation. Currently a civil penalty of at least \$100 and up to \$500 may be imposed. Revenue derived from fines would be deposited in the public utilities account in the state treasury. In its investigation, the TRA may issue investigative demands, subpoenas, administer oaths, and conduct hearings.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

State Expenditures - Net Impact - Not Significant

Increase State Revenues - Not Significant

Estimates assumes an increase in state expenditures in TRA to enforce the provisions of this bill and respond to complaints and a decrease in state expenditures in the Department of Commerce and Insurance.

Based on the number of complaints filed in 2002 any increase in revenues resulting from changing the amount of civil penalties that can be imposed is estimated to be not significant.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James A. Davenport, Executive Director

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